

House File 2544 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES
(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2055)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to student eye care and providing an
2 applicability date.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 5776HV 82
5 ak/rj/24

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 280.7A STUDENT EYE CARE.
1 2 1. A parent or guardian who registers a child for
1 3 kindergarten or a preschool program shall be given a student
1 4 vision card.
1 5 2. Prior to being evaluated for special education services
1 6 pursuant to chapter 256B, a student shall receive an eye
1 7 examination by a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist. A
1 8 parent or guardian is responsible for ensuring a student
1 9 receives an eye examination if required under this subsection.
1 10 3. Area education agencies, pursuant to section 273.3,
1 11 shall make every effort to provide, in collaboration with
1 12 local community organizations, vision screening services to
1 13 children ages two through four.
1 14 Sec. 2. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
1 15 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
1 16 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
1 17 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
1 18 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
1 19 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
1 20 to meet all the state funding-related requirements of section
1 21 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding shall be
1 22 necessary for the full implementation of this Act by and
1 23 enforcement of this Act against all affected school districts.
1 24 Sec. 3. APPLICABILITY DATE. This Act applies to school
1 25 years beginning on or after July 1, 2009.

1 26 EXPLANATION
1 27 This bill requires that a parent or guardian receive a
1 28 student vision card when a child is registered for
1 29 kindergarten or a preschool program.
1 30 The bill requires that prior to being evaluated for special
1 31 education services, a student must receive an eye examination
1 32 by a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist; ensuring that
1 33 the examination is conducted is the responsibility of the
1 34 student's parent or guardian.
1 35 Area education agencies are directed to collaborate with
2 1 local organizations to provide vision screenings to children
2 2 ages two through four.
2 3 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
2 4 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of any
2 5 state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
2 6 district from state school foundation aid received by the
2 7 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
2 8 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state
2 9 mandate funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2.
2 10 The inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate
2 11 the requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any
2 12 state mandates included in the bill.
2 13 LSB 5776HV 82
2 14 ak/rj/24